



SOFTBALL Quick strike keys Brownie win, page 12



ROBOTICS
Rosie qualifies for world tourney, page 19

AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION ■ www.turley.com

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OPIOID CRISIS

Ending the silence around addiction

Open forum, Facebook group search for solutions to drug abuse in Agawam

By Katherine Anderson aan@turley.com

Addiction is a dangerous and often solitary struggle, one that is shrouded in shame and silence.

Even when the addict has reached recovery, the sharing of stories is encouraged only under the guise of anonymity. But as the opioid abuse epidemic in Western Massachusetts grows, groups in Agawam are working to end the stigma and disgrace surrounding addiction.

Silence is giving way to conversation both online and, last week, in person, at a town-sponsored forum.

Kristin Trauschke, an Agawam native and graduate of Agawam High School, started the conversation by founding the Agawam Against Addiction group on Facebook.com, a completely open forum where addicts, friends, family members, and concerned residents can gather and talk about prevention, treatment, and recovery in a public setting, freely sharing knowledge, resources, and most importantly experience

"Statistics say that one in three people are affected by addiction, but in truth it's all of us," said Trauschke in her opening remarks at the April 13 open forum at Roberta Doering School, the first community addiction event of its kind in Agawam.

Trauschke said she created the Agawam Against Addiction group and public forum to let families, friends, and addicts alike know that they are not alone while working to end the embarrassment of addiction and its consequences.

"It's important that people see

FORUM I page 6



Tracy Wilkie, left, speaks with an attendee at the Addiction Forum held last week in Agawam. Wilkie founded the Shane Foundation in memory of her son, who died of an opioid overdose last year. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY KATHERINE ANDERSON

CITY COUNCIL

Changes sought in filling vacancies

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

In the wake of the appointment of a new member to the Agawam School Committee, the mayor and three city councilors are sponsoring a resolution that would change how vacancies are filled.

Councilor Richard Theroux, who was the town clerk before being elected to the City Council last year, said he attempted in 2000 to have the rules for filling vacancies on the School Committee and City Council changed.

"I was the town clerk at the time and I was able to get it changed for the City Council, but I did not have enough votes at the time to change the succession for School Committee," said Theroux.

Last week, the council and School Committee held a special meeting to name a replacement for the late School Committee member Roberta Doering.

Brian Burbank, who ran last fall for a seat on the School Committee, was selected to finish Doering's term during the joint meeting, but Theroux, Council President James Cichetti, and Councilor George Bitzas believe the meeting should not have had to happen.

"The next School Committee member should be the person from the last election with the next most votes," said Bitzas. "We should not have a special meeting and the council should not

VACANCIES **■** page 6

Good evening, boys and girls | ENTERTAINM



Fourth-grade classmates and best friends Tessa Ebreo and A.J. Croteau were the student emcees at the fourth annual talent show last week at Phelps School. Story and more photos, page 8. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE

Noise no longer noisome at The Still

Southgate Plaza business meets council's requirements for live music

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

The Still has received a clean slate from the Agawam City Council's Administrative Subcommittee.

On Tuesday night, Councilor Paul Cavallo, who now chairs the subcommittee, gave a three-month update that was stipulated by a December 2015 vote of the council.

When renewing the entertainment license for the bar located at 858 Suffield St., the council made three major stipulations in ap-

proving the license.

They requiring the performing stage face toward the front of the business, which had already been done; that theater curtains be draped in the front of the store; and that all bands coming into the business be required to use the house sound system in order to ensure there is not excessive noise coming from louder speakers.

Cavallo said Code Enforcement Officer Michael Theroux made an inspection to the business on March 24, and reported that owner Rebecca Masler was in

full compliance with the stipulations made by the council.

"She has met and exceeded the expectations set forth by the City Council," said Cavallo.

He added that a report from the Agawam Police Department was also favorable and there were no noise complaints against the bar.

"I see no reason for any further inspections or reviews for this business," said Cavallo.

He thanked Masler, who attended the meeting, for her cooperation with the council.

STILL **I** page 6





Historical museum premieres Big E exhibit this weekend

The Agawam Historical and Firehouse Museum will open for the season Sunday, April 24. The museum, which houses a collection of artifacts showcasing the town's history, this year will feature an exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Eastern States Exhibition.

The museum will be open 1-4 p.m. this Sunday, as well as four other dates in 2016: noon to 3 p.m. Monday, May 30; 1-4 p.m. Sunday, June 26; 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15.

For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com or follow it on Facebook.









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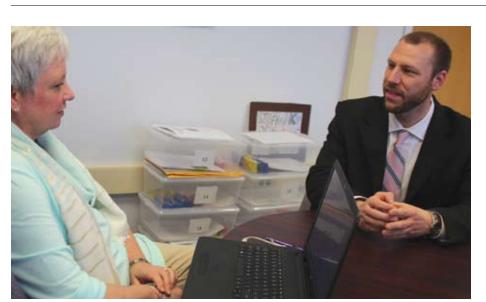
BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage polices, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

A **TURLEY** PUBLICATION



Nicholas Bernier, recently hired as the next principal for Robinson Park School, meets last week with current principal Cynthia Palazzi, who will retire in June. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Jr. High teacher hired to lead RPS

Nicholas Bernier will be a social studies teacher at Agawam Junior High School for just three more months. He was recently appointed principal at Robinson Park Elementary School to replace Cynthia Palazzi when she retires in June.

Bernier — introduced at last week's School Committee meeting — was the unanimous choice of a search committee chaired by Assistant Superintendent Allison LeClair. A seventh- and eighth-grade social studies in Agawam for nearly 10 years, he's also the school's Social Studies Common Core facilitator and oversees its annual National Geographic GeoBee.

"My 10 years in Agawam have been very rewarding," he said. "I'm very excited to enter the next phase of my career in Agawam."

Bernier is a Chicopee native who currently lives in Westfield. He graduated magna cum laude from Assumption College in Worcester in 2003, where he majored in history with a concentration in education. He received his master's degree in education from Elms College in 2009 and became a certified administrator in 2013, the same year he received a Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching Award. He previously taught social studies and religion at St. Mary's Academy in Longmeadow.

Beginner strength classes free at Agawam Library

The Agawam Public Library offers "Chair Fit Plus: Beginner Strength Class" with the YMCA the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. The next classes will take place May 11 and 25 at 10:30 a.m. The program will focus on the fundamentals of muscle strengthening, including core and balance.

All exercises include the use of a chair. Body weight exercises will also be included to ensure a good workout. All are welcome to join instructor Ryan Rackliffe for these free classes and sample what the YMCA has to offer. Blood pressure checks will also be available. Registration is not necessary.

The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.



Ricard Pete, a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, shakes Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen's hand at School Street Park on July 29, 2015. At right, Gary Janulewicz holds up a "Purple Heart Trail" sign similar to those that will be placed along Main Street. FILE PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

Dedication ceremony next month for Purple Heart Trail along Main St.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart will hold a dedication ceremony Saturday morning, May 21, for Agawam's "Purple Heart Trail," an honorary designation to be applied to the full length of Main Street in town.

The ceremony, timed to coincide with Armed Forces Day, will start with coffee and doughnuts at 9 a.m. in the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. The dedication program begins at 10 a.m.

Mayor Richard Cohen and the Agawam City Council designated Main Street as a "Purple Heart Trail" last year, to honor members of the military who have been wounded or killed in combat. Purple signs sponsored by nonprofit organizations, or in honor of individual Purple Heart recipients, will mark the route.

Brian Willette, commander of the Western Massachusets chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, said last year that Main Street is an appropriate site for a Purple Heart Trail, as it connects the town's Veterans Green and the state's Veterans Memorial Cemetery, and overlaps the route traveled by George Washington twice — once, as a general, riding on horseback to take command of the budding Revolution in Boston in 1775; and then in a carriage as president in 1789.



www.facebook.com/AgawamAdvertiserNews

You Asked?



Agawam's Skate Park at Shea Field isn't just for skateboards. FILE PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

Skate park open to wheels of all stripes

I've searched online and can't seem to find anything about it. ... Does anyone know if the Agawam Skate Park allows kids to use scooters and skates, or is it just for skateboards?

- Missie, on "Agawam, MA Open Forum" at Facebook.com

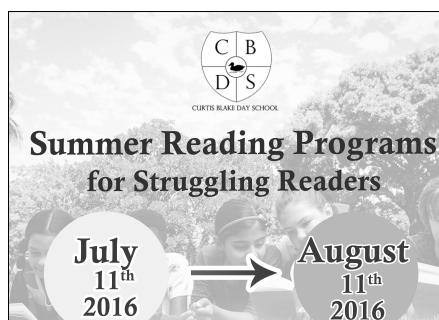
As long as they're using it safely, kids are welcome to bring a wide range of wheels, said Parks and Recreation Director Christopher Sparks this week.

"Bikes, scooters, skates, even rollerblades have been in there," he said.

The skate park, next to Shea Field off Maynard Street, contains several ramps and rails for building up speed and performing tricks. Sparks said his advice to bikers and skaters is the same as to skateboarders — be aware of what's happening on nearby ramps at all times, and stay safe and in control.

He also noted that the skate park will see a major upgrade this June, with a new ramp funded by an \$11,000 gift from the Converse shoe and apparel company. This donation was originally announced at \$10,000 in February, Sparks said, but the company agreed to increase it to match the price of the particular ramp the town wanted.

Written by Michael J. Ballway. "You Asked?" is an occasional series of short articles answering questions of local interest from Agawam Advertiser News readers and social media. See something around town you'd like to know more about? Email your question to aan@turlev.com.



Affordable Programs, Experienced Teachers

For over 40 years the Curtis Blake Day School has been supporting language learning disabled students. This summer we bring these strategies to your child in a tutorial based program with certified teachers and a Speech Language Pathologist on staff. With a 172 years of combined teaching experience our staff understand which interventions are most effective to help your child succeed.

Conveniently offered over five weeks, two days a week, three hours a day these supportive programs build on progress your child made during the school year.

Services will be provided at the Curtis Blake Day School, 91 Old Acre Rd. Springfield, MA.

For more information please contact:

Linda Lafontaine, Principal Curtis Blake Day School 413-783-0569 Ext.300 | LLafontaine@studyhome.org

Dr. Joseph A. Dupelle, Director of Education The Children's Study Home 413-783-0567 Ext.101 | JDupelle@studyhome.org

A program of the Children's Study Home.



EDITORIAL

Hearts and darts

HEARTS ... to everyone involved in the effort to name the School Street Park band shell after Darcy Davis, from the high school band alumni and band parents who suggested the honor to the mayor, legal counsel and city councilors who shepherded it through the legislative process. For more than half a century, Davis has been the town's most prominent bandleader — originally at the high school, where he trained generations of musicians and singers, but more recently, after his retirement, with adult groups at the Agawam Senior Center. It's hard to think of a better match for his name than the newest venue for outdoor music in town, a place where hundreds of people have gathered in the past year to enjoy bands.

DARTS ... to litterbugs. It's as simple as that. Littering, dumping, polluting, however you call it — leaving your trash and waste in a public place for someone else to clean up — is illegal and it's immoral. It means you're cheating your way out of the relatively easy work of disposing of your own wrappers, bottles, bags, cigarette butts, and making more work for the volunteers of the Westfield River Watershed Association, which will sponsor a cleanup along the banks of the river in Agawam this weekend. Volunteers should meet at the Pynchon Point parking lot on River Road, near the rotary, at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 23. Or it means you're making more work for the volunteers of Agawam Clean, the DPW's town-wide cleanup scheduled for the month of May. And in the meantime, you're robbing the property values of the homes and businesses near your trash — and that's not even mentioning what you're doing to the envi-

HEARTS ... to the Agawam YMCA staff, patrons and Advisory Board members who are putting in extra volunteer hours to save the Y under a new nonprofit structure. Agawam identified the need for a community center at least a decade ago, and it took years of hard work to get the YMCA built. Then the town's partner, the Greater Springfield YMCA, abruptly pulled the plug last month. Initially, town officials said it could take another long effort to build a replacement. Now, it looks like the family and wellness center on Springfield Street may not even miss a day of operations as it transitions from a YMCA to a new identity on June 1. The transition may look seamless to members — let's hope it does - but don't let that disguise the hard work and hardy attitude that is going into it.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.

Let us know

The Agawam Advertiser News, your community newspaper, welcomes letters, submissions, photographs and news tips from residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills.

The best way to contact us is by telephone, 413-786-7747, or email, aan@turley.com.

We can also be reached by fax at 413-786-8457 and by mail at Turley Publications, 380 Union St., W. Springfield, MA 01089.

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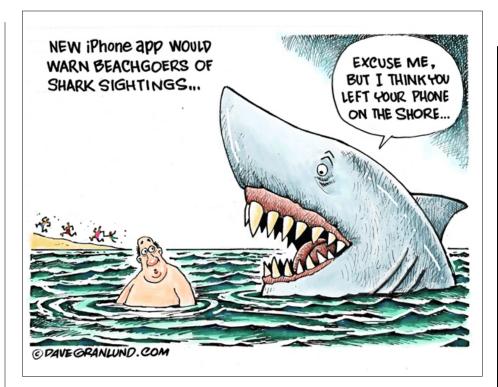
Our office is open Monday through Thursday mornings, and other weekday times by ap-

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@

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Letters to the Editor

'James' recalls a happy memory of Mrs. Doering

First, I want to say thank you for the excellent coverage of the details of filling the School Committee vacancy created by the passing of Mrs. [Roberta] Doering. I wish Mr. [Brian] Burbank the best of luck in this experience. I similarly experienced the process and lack of consensus when I was a candidate to fill the vacancy created by Mr. [John] Burns' untimely passing. Yes, it was contentious back in 2008, too.

Second, I want to note a "small" editorial error. I was mentioned as a precedent for Mr. Burbank's appointment. However, my legal name is John N. Cameron Jr., but I am registered as the (nick)name I've been known by my entire life - Jay. My name was stated in the article as "James 'Jay' Cameron." However, I actually thought it quite funny. Although I had the honor of accompanying Mrs. Doering to a weeklong MASC/MASC state conference, and served with her on the committee for 20 months and interacted with her on many other occasions before and after my School Committee tenure, she quite often called me "James." So, I consider the typo in the article to be an unintentional way to honor the memory of Mrs. Doering. She was quite a professional woman, and stood up firmly for what she felt was right. She is sorely

Thank you for the great work.

Jay Cameron Agawam

Election results should fill mid-term vacancies

Please see attached letter that I sent to both the Agawam City Council and the Agawam School Committee. I am asking that my letter be printed in the Agawam Advertiser in the "Letters to the Editor" section because It was not read by the Agawam City Council president, as agreed upon, at the joint Agawam City Council and Agawam School Committee meeting held on April 12 for the filling of the vacant seat on the Agawam School Committee. In addition to the letter, I would like the following statement to be included.

I believe that the School Committee should adopt a policy for selecting a person to fill a vacant seat on the School Committee. As I stated in my letter to the council and the School Committee, "so that politics does not play a part in the selection process I believe that the person who lost the last election should be the person filling the seat." Should the Town Charter take precedence over policy, then the School Committee should pursue amending the Town Charter, because I do not believe that the City Council should be involved in the selection process. After all, the School

Dear President Cichetti,

After thoughtful consideration I am withdrawing my name from the filling of the vacant seat of the late School Committee member Roberta Doering. I would prefer to obtain the vote of the people of Agawam rather than the vote of the City Council and School Committee.

So that politics does not play a part in the selection process I believe that the person who lost the last School Committee election should be the

person filling the vacant seat. Kindly forward this letter to all city Council Members.

> Thank you Linda Galarneau

Committee is a separate elected body by the people and therefore should be independent of the council's influence when it comes to filling a seat on the School Com-

Linda Galarneau

Former member, Agawam **School Committee** Agawam

Program director deserves recognition

I cannot think of a better person to represent Agawam Family and Community Program than Michelle Connery. She should be recognized for her caring, devotion and special attention to educating our young children and families in town.

She cares with abundant information in many areas. She is the perfect person for resources. Her positive attitude is a valuable attribute to her position. She is a welcome face at Granger School for all her volunteer work.

Keep up the exceptional work, Mrs. Connery.

> Susan Meunier Feeding Hills









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\$35 per year pre-paid (\$40 out of state) Newsstand \$1.00

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Monday at Noon. Please send letters to Agawam Advertiser News, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 380 Union Street, Suite 52; West Springfield, MA 01089 or e-mail aan@turley.com.

AGAWAM

The Agawam Advertiser News (USPS 001-170) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.

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Jim Reynolds said no

Walt Willard

im Reynolds Jr. graduated from AHS in 1930. A three-sport athlete but wellrounded, he was the Student Council

president and participated in the operetta for four years.

In 1953, Jim was president of the newly-formed Agawam Little League. That first season, Tom Buoniconti was the top pitcher for the first place Chriscola Bears, compiling a 6-1 record. Harold Coons had a .510 batting average, tops in the league. In 1955, Jim Reynolds and a few other dads started the Jim Reynolds Baseball League for 13-15 year-olds. Many a '50s

or '60s graduate played in that league.

Jim Jr. and his wife Inez had a son in 1941 named James Reynolds III. He followed his dad's footsteps at AHS, but at the new location on Cooper Street. Besides the three main sports, he played hockey and golf. In 1956, Jim remembers skipping football practice and hiding in Bruce Cobb's car so he could listen to the World Series. He got to hear Don Larsen's perfect game when he shut down the Dodgers. Marty McMahon, Jim's cousin, recently sent me a story about Mickey Mantle's great catch in that game. He snagged Gil Hodges' deep line drive to preserve the perfect game.

In June of 1963, Jim Reynolds Jr. was the commencement speaker at the AHS graduation. He told the graduates how he felt about his alma mater: "You know, there's something about Agawam High School that, once you are subjected to its influence, it becomes a part of you." How true.

Jim Reynolds IV was born in 1968. He went to South Catholic High in Hartford, Conn., playing football, basketball and baseball, just like his father and grandfather had done as Brownies. When he went on to UConn, a chance meeting proved to change his life forever. A fire drill sent him outside in his high school jacket. He spot-

ted a young man in a St. Joseph's jacket from Trumbull, Conn. They talked for a while about playing against each other.

His new friend, Dan Iassognia, intrigued him when he said that the baseball coach was looking for two guys to learn umpiring so they could do the junior varsity games for him. Jim and Dan took the positions, and after graduation went to umpire school. It's 2016 and they are both major league umpires.

This past week, Jim IV umpired the Rex Sox series against the Baltimore Orioles. Did you see him jump in the air to avoid

being hit by a hard ground ball? That was in the first game, when he was umpiring at second base. Jim had first base in the second game, so that meant he would have home plate for the final. In the ninth inning of the final, the Sox were ahead 4-2 and brought in their closer, Craig Kimbrel. The Orioles' first batter took a third strike. The second batter took a pitch which the crowd figured was a strike but the TV announcer, Dave O'Brien, said, "Jim Reynolds said no." Did you hear that? The son of a Brownie on national TV controlling the lives and fortunes of millions.

Major league umpire Jim Reynolds IV has a son, James Reynolds V. They live in Arizona and spend a lot of time together in the off-season. Maybe someday young James V will have a son he can name James Reynolds VI. I'd like to be around to hear about him.

Note: Jim IV will be back at Fenway July 25-27 and at Yankee Stadium Sept. 30 to

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.



James Reynolds Jr.



James Reynolds III



Umpire James Reynolds IV

School Committee Meeting

Roberta G. Doering School 68 Main St. Tuesday, April 26 — 7 p.m.

- 1 Call to order
- 2. Executive session Contract negotiations 6 p.m.
- 3. Moment of silence
- 4. Roll call of attendance
- 5. FY '17 Budget review 6:30 p.m.
- a. Presentation of proposed FY '17 Budget Mr. Sapelli
- b. Public hearing on FY '17 Budget
- 6. Regular meeting 7 p.m.
- 7. Citizen's Speak Time
- 8. Highlights on Education: AHS "Poetry Out Loud" winners
- 9. Superintendent's Notes
- 10. Student Advisory Committee representative update
- 11. Unfinished Business:
- a. SCR-16-12, Acceptance of \$8,000 donation from the Springfield Turnverein to purchase gymnastics equipment for Agawam High School
- b. SCR-16-13, Request to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to "Hold Harmless" results from the 2016 Testing Cycle for All MCAS Districts and PARCC Districts
- 12. Business meeting
- a. Routine matters
- 1) Approval of minutes
- 2) Calendar/Correspondence
- b. Warrants/Transfers
- c. Reports:
- 1). Scheduled Reports:
- Personnel Update (paper report)
- Management & Organizational Assessment Project Update by Mr. Frank Colvario
- 2). Subcommittee updates
- 13. New business: None
- 14. Policy Review:
- a. Policy ECAF, Security Cameras in Schools, 2nd and 3rd readings
- b. Policy EBC, Emergency Plans, 2nd and 3rd readings
- c. Policy JKAA, Physical Restraint of Students, 2nd and 3rd
- d. Policy JND, Access to Digital Resources, 2nd and 3rd readings
- e. Policy IJNDB, Empowered Digital Use Policy, 2nd and 3rd
- f. Policy IJNDC, Internet Publications, 2nd and 3rd readings 15. Any other items that may legally come before the committee

Hearing on CPA spending

The Agawam Community Preservation Act Committee will hold its annual public hearing, as required by law, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 27, in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St.

The committee will also provide a financial report and discuss recent accomplishments and current goals.

Currently, the committee has \$575,858 available to be used for open space preservation, \$114,466 for the preservation of historical resources and \$582,679 for the creation and support of community housing. There is also \$988,125 which may be used for the creation of recreation opportunities or to add to any of the above three categories.

Any person may submit a proposal to the committee using the form and guidelines to be found at www.agawam. ma.us, at the procurement office at Town Hall, 36 Main St., Agawam, by phone at 413-726-9742 or by email at cpa@ agawam.ma.us.

Those that are not able to attend are welcome to forward questions or information to Jennifer Bonfiglio, CPA administrator, at 413-726-9742 or cpa@agawam.ma.us.

DEATH NOTICES

Beaudry, Angela M.

Died April 14 Funeral April 19 Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Hall, Cathy L.

Funeral April 16 Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Ironside, Raymond E.

Died April 9 Funeral April 14 Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home Holyoke

Tatro, Lucille E.

Funeral April 19 Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Waite, Marie G.

Died April 16 Funeral April 22 Forastiere-Smith Funeral East Longmeadow

Agawam Advertiser News

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a Paid **Obituary**, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be

submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



Please recycle this newspaper

Glenmeadow Getaways 2016 Day Trips

Visit someplace new, or return to an old favorite. 2016 day trips bring you opera and ballet, gardening and musical theater.



TUESDAY, JUN. 7 White Flower Farm Morris, CT



THURSDAY, JUL. 28 Jewels: New York City Ballet in Saratoga

Saratoga Performing **Arts Center** Saratoga Springs, NY



Puccini's La Bohème The Glimmerglass **Festival** Cooperstown, NY

TUESDAY, AUG. 9



THURSDAY, OCT. 27

Chasing Rainbows: The Road to Oz Goodspeed Opera

House East Haddam, CT





FORUM ■ from page 1

and speak the raw truth, as ugly as it is, so that everyone can learn and we can give strength and support," Trauschke said.

Mayor Richard Cohen, who welcomed the forum panel and the community members in attendance,

"Addiction is every community's problem," Cohen said. "We all know someone who is touched by addic-

Many parents in the audience, like Agawam resident Melanie Pickett, chose to bring their children to the forum despite cautions that some of the material might be unsuitable for younger eyes and ears. Pickett, who has six children, said she brought not only two of her own children, but one of her sister's children, as well, because as a family they have struggled with her younger sister's addiction.

"I've watched her slowly lose everything — her job, her relationships, and her children. She started with pills and ended it with heroin," Pick-

She says that thanks to her sister's erratic behavior, she was forced to address the issue of addiction with all the children long before she had originally planned. According to Pickett, she starts all conversations with her children by asking them what they want out of life, then explaining to them that it's all about balance and good decisions.

"Unfortunately we are able to use my sister as the example of having it all and losing it but we are very honest and open. Kids are very, very smart and they pick up on things," she said.

Like many others who have dealt with a friend or family member in the throes of addiction, Pickett remembers watching her mother try to section her sister and get her help, but they hit a wall at every turn.

"My mother spent entire days at the courthouse begging for help but in order to section someone, [but] they have to be actively using," Pickett said, and sister showed up clean each time, and by law was allowed to go home. Pickett says it's simply heartbreaking and she's grateful to Kristin and her partners for creating the Agawam Against Addiction group where she and others in her situation can share their experiences.

Many times, Kristin spends the bulk of her days researching what programs have open beds, what insurance companies will cover extended treatment stays, and what resources are available for families. They also post information about recognizing the symptoms of addiction and how to approach a loved one suspected of using. The CVS on Silver Street also carries Narcan, a drug that can greatly reduce the effects of an opioid overdose if administered in conjunction with calling emergency services.

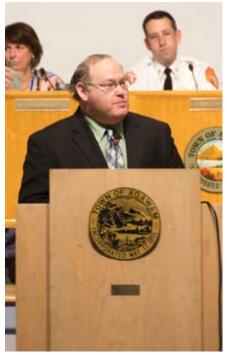
Though the group stresses open discussion, it's also created a way for some to continue to post anonymously - an email address, silentshares@gmail.com, where stories can be posted and shared anonymously but users can still receive advice and support.

Tracie Wilkie of the Shane Foundation lost her son Shane to an opioid overdose last year and she says it's time for everyone to be aware of, and break, the code of silence among teenagers.

'We have to learn a new code — a code that could save a life," Wilkie said. "No one really loses a friend until they're dead; anger doesn't count as truly losing a friend, so kids — and parents — need to learn it's all right to break that code of silence."



Kristin Trauschke, founder of the Agawam Against Addiction group on Facebook.com, works on a poster for her table at last week's Addiction Forum.



Mayor Richard Cohen was among the speakers at the event. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY KATH-**ERINE ANDERSON**



All were invited to hear stories and advice from addicts' family members and health professionals at the Agawam Addiction Forum last week.

15 16 43 60

CLUES ACKOSS

- 1. Crooned
- 5. Luck
- 8. Cosecant function
- 11. Rock bands play here 13. Surrounds the
- 14. Jessica
- 15. A type of clique
- 16. No seats
- available 17. Greek sophist
- 18. Stiff hair
- 20. Recipe
- measurement (abbr.)
- 21. Legal periodical
- 22. Saloons 25. He tricks you
- 30. Closing over
- 31. Man's best friend is one
- 32. Distinguish oneself
- 33. Immoralities

- 38. Marsh eider
- 41. Blasts 43. A discerning
- judge 45. Avenge for a
- wrong
- 48. Doctors' group 49. Jerry's friend
- 50. Type of sword 55. Swedish rock group
- 56. Black tropical American cuckoo
- 57. Blatted
- 59. Cain and
- 60. Strong liquor
- flavored with juniper berries
- 61. Cocoa bean 62. Get free of
- 63. Cardiograph 64. A cargo (abbr.)
- **CLUES DOWN** 1. A baglike

structure in a

- plant or animal 2. Bird genus 3. One point east of
- northeast
- 4. A type of fly 5. Hurry
- 6. Lighter-than-air craft
- 7. Ask to marry 8. Thick rope made of wire
- 9. Imposters 10. Central nervous
- system 12. Pie _ __ mode
- 14. Robert ___, poet 19. Dwelt 23. Firewood
- 24. Voices 25. Water in the solid
- state 26. Superman's foe 27. Chris Paul's team
- (abbr.) 28. Employ

29. Mineral

- 40. A class of synthetic detergents
 - 41. Drunkard 42. Doesn't win or

34. Vessel

36. Romania

39. Potential

difference

35. Nigerian City

37. Sirius Satellite

Radio (abbr.)

- lose 44. Appellative
- 45. Spiritual leader 46. Implant
- 47. Language (Afrikaans) 51. Basics 52. A one-time
- Giants center 53. Every one of two
- or more 54. A way to gather
- 55. Swiss river 58. Small spot

Answers on page 19

VACANCIES ■ from page 1

have to vote. It should be up to the School Committee."

Under the proposed revision to Section 4-6 of the town charter, if more than six people run for the six School Committee seats, and a member resigns or passes away creating a vacancy, the order of succession will be the order of how the remaining candidates finished in the previous election.

Using the previous election as an example, Burbank placed seventh in the election and would have automatically been offered the vacant seat for the remainder of Doering's term.

Under the current law, Burbank was required to submit a letter of interest and went through a joint meeting process where he had to be nominated and both the council and School Committee had to vote for him. Six others also wrote letters of interest for the seat, but withdrew from consideration prior to the joint meeting last Tuesday.

The other major change being proposed if there are no candidates from the previous election eligible or willing to take the vacancy, then the School Committee alone would vote to select a new member. The City Council's role would be eliminated from the process.

"It's their board," said Theroux. "They should have the ability to choose who will be the replacement if there is no one remaining from the previous election."

Theroux said in 2000, a similar process was adopted by the 11-member City Council, with any vacancy being filled automatically by the 12th place vote-getter from the previous election.

Vacancies on the two elected boards have happened, but have been very rare. Prior to Doering's passing, the council had one vacancy in 2000. There had been no School Committee vacancies in the past 16 years prior to Doering's passing.

The council's Legislative Subcommittee will take up the issue in the next week and it will be up for vote at the next council meeting. If approved, the charter change would have to be approved by the state Legislature.

STILL **■** from page 1

In response to numerous noise complaints and a lengthy inquiry by the subcommittee Masler invested thousands of dollars in new equipment, the theater curtain, and other amenities in order to quell the noise emanating from her bar to help please the neighbors.

Among the many improvements, Theroux noted the house sound system has governors installed that help regulate the level of sound coming from bands that perform

AGAWAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FY'17 PROPOSED BUDGET

Agawam – According to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 38N, copies of the proposed school department budget shall be available to the public 48 hours prior to the posted public hearing, which is scheduled for April 26, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in the Roberta G. Doering School auditorium. There will be copies of the proposed budget available in the Superintendent's office located at the Agawam Junior High School, at the Town Clerk's office in the Agawam Town Hall located at 68 Main Street, and at the Agawam Public Library located at 750 Cooper Street.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 380 calls for service from April 11 to April 17. The department recorded nine arrests in its public log. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Monday, April 11

Jermaine McLean, 27, of 28 Baltimore St., Apt. 2, Hartford, Conn., was arrested on charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, attaching plates to a motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle, and unregistered motor vehicle

Kathryn Colavecchio, 31, of 149 Vine St., 3rd Floor, Hartford, Conn., was arrested on two default warrants for failure to appear.

Tuesday, April 12

Jose Rivera, 46, of 200 Southwick Road, Apt. B4, Westfield, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, operation of a motor vehicle with improper squealing tires.

Wednesday, April 13

Samuel Bethe, 60, of 8755 S. 850E, Buckskin, Ind.,

was arrested on a charge of larceny under \$250 by single scheme.

Jamie L. Fast, 37, of 28 Orlando St., Agawam, was arrested on charges of operation of a motor vehicle with license suspended, uninsured motor vehicle, failure to stop or yield, and on a default warrant for failure to ap-

Brian R. St. Jean. 34. of 28 Orlando St., Feeding Hills. was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Thursday, April 14

Vladimir V. Duducal, 27, of 25 Westford Circle, Agawam, was arrested on charges of operation of a motor vehicle with license suspended subsequent offense. possession of a class A drug subsequent offense, and a marked lanes violation.

Sara L. Brancieri, 38, of 6 Corey Colonial, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear and on charges of operation of a motor vehicle license suspended, marked lanes violation, and possession of open container of alcohol in motor vehicle.

John Reed, 50, of 579 Barry St., Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

tenure as town clerk. FILE PHOTO Theroux mulling a run for rep.

Richard Theroux is pictured in his office at Town Hall last year, before he ended his three-decade

By Michael J. Ballway mballway@turley.com

City Councilor Richard Theroux could be on the ballot again this November.

Less than half a year after rejoining the council, Theroux said this week that he is exploring a run for state representative, as a Democratic challenger to state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga, this year.

"I don't need this job — but I want to do this job," he said Tuesday. He said his close relationship with previous state representatives showed him what the position entails: "I sat at a table with Dan Keenan, Mike Walsh, Rosemary [Sandlin], saw what the job was. I'm interested in doing the job."

He said as a state representative, he would be more visible in the three communities of the district and be more responsive to local governments' needs. He characterized himself as "a government person who's worked in the government most of his life," willing to work long hours without worrying about who gets the credit, and "not a politician." He declined, however, to specifically criticize the Republican incumbent, who has been in office since 2010.

"I'm not running to oppose anyone," Theroux said.

He said he had long considered running for state office. Before being elected to the City Council in 2015, he served more than three decades as town clerk in Agawam, and served as president of the Western Massachusetts City and Town Clerks Association, a role in which he worked with lawmakers on legislation. He has also represented Agawam and served in leadership roles with the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority and Hampden County Retirement Board.

Theroux won his first election at the age of 18, becoming a Town Meeting member under Agawam's previous form of government. When the City Council was formed, Theroux was elected to that body, later serving as council president. In 1983, he was appointed town clerk, a position he held until December 2015. He recently returned to the City Council and would be up for re-election in November 2017.

Theroux said he would resign from the council if it affected his duties as state representative.

"You have to be willing to put in the time that's necessary," he said. "I've never done anything in my life halfway, and I'm not going to start now."

Boldyga, who announced last month that he plans to seek re-election, resigned from the Board of Selectmen in Southwick when he was elected state representative in 2010. Boldyga said earlier this month that he had filed his nomination papers; Theroux has not yet done so, but said he will "decide very shortly" whether to enter the

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 71 EMS calls from April 5 to April 11, and the following emergency response calls.

On April 6 at 7:14 a.m., the department responded to Royal Lane for carbon monoxide detector activation. no CO.

On April 6 at 3:20 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for electrical wiring/equipment problem, other.

On April 6 at 6:05 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for public service.

On April 6 at 10:35 p.m., the department responded to North Street, was dispatched and cancelled en route.

On April 6 at 10:55 p.m., the department responded to N. West Street for smoke detector activation due to malfunction.

On April 7 at 2:32 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On April 7 at 6:59 p.m., the department responded to Mansion Woods Drive for carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO.

On April 7 at 7:47 p.m., the department responded to Broz Terrace for public service assistance, other.

On April 8 at 3:31 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On April 9 at 11:47 a.m., the department responded to Pine Street for citizen complaint.

On April 9 at 4:52 p.m., the department responded to Cooper Street for outside rubbish fire, other. On April 9 at 6:44 p.m., the department responded to

Meadow Street for citizen complaint. On April 10 at 9:15 a.m., the department responded

to Maple Street for person in distress, other. On April 10 at 1:43 p.m., the department responded to Southwick Street for brush or brush and grass mixture

On April 10 at 10:32 p.m., the department responded to Pine Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

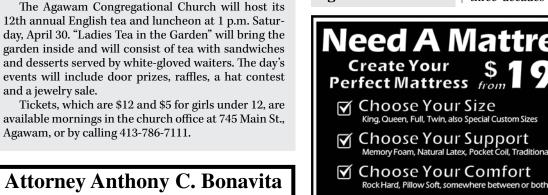
On April 11 at 2:32 p.m., the department responded to Leonard Street for public service.

On April 11 at 3:12 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for public service.

On April 11 at 4:50 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for unintentional transmission of alarm,

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Talent show is fun for all

By Mike Lydick aan@turley.com

essa Ebreo has wanted to be an emcee ever since she was in first grade. Last week, her dream came true.

Tessa and A.J. Croteau, her fourth-grade classmate and best friend at Phelps Elementary School, hosted the school's fourth annual talent show. Each year, two fourth graders are selected to serve as masters of ceremonies for the two-hour show that also includes a pasta dinner before the performances.

Tessa, 10, said being an emcee is "awesome." She added that one of her favorite things is speaking in front of crowds — especially with A.J.

A.J. also liked emceeing the show with his best friend and talking into a micro-

"I want to entertain people when we introduce the acts," he said before the show. The key to being a successful emcee he added, "is to have a personality in your voice and to keep your head up."

Like all students in the show, A.J. and Tessa rehearsed before their big night. Each day for the two months leading up to the April 14 show, the duo talked over the school intercom, cracking jokes, talking about the acts, and reminding kids to buy tickets.

Solo and group performances

The show involved 58 students performing 35 acts of two minutes or less in solo or group performances. They sang, danced, demonstrated martial arts, played musical instruments, staged magic acts, or did

Kellie Morello, a second-grade paraprofessional at the school, helps organize the show. The idea to combine a dinner with a talent show came from the school's improvement council four years ago.

She said planning usually takes about two months. However, the first year it was a scramble to pull the show off in less a month. It proved to be a big hit.

"It was fabulous. The kids loved it and the parents loved it," she recalled.

Paul Sawyer, a music teacher at the school, handles the music for the show. He's responsible for the rehearsal, while Morello handles the logistics, such as getting sign-up forms back from kids interested in performing and then deciding the

This year's opening act was Morello's



Jake Parolo, 10, a fourth-grader at Phelps, earned cheers and applause while dancing and lip-synching to Adele's "Hello."

son, Talan. The fourth grader plays drums and has his own band, "Locals Only." Morello said he earned his way into the show because of his talent, not because she helps plan the show.

Talan said he's played the drums for five years. He and the three other kids in his band play mostly rock and heavy metal.

"I like to make music." said Talan. "It's fun to play in front of my friends."

One of the reasons Talan started playing the drums is because of a familial connection. "My great-grandfather played the drums, so I think I inherited some of his talent."

TALENT **I** page 9



Lia Boulos, left, and Madeline Maharne, two first graders, perform knock-knock jokes at the talent



Fourth-grade drummer Talan Morello was the opening act at this year's talent show at Phelps Elementary School, last Thursday. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

Girl Scout troop makes sweet treat donation to cancer center



Hailey Goulet, left, and Abby Polley deliver Girl Scout cookies to Robert Scalzo at the D'Amour Center for Cancer Care. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Girl Scouts Hailey Goulet, left, and Abby Polley made a special delivery of Girl Scout cookies to the D'Amour Center for Cancer Care in Springfield last week. Hailey and Abby represented the eight girls who make up Agawam Brownie Troop 11916. The troop donated more than 60 boxes of cookies that were distributed to patients undergoing treatment.

"I hope the cookies make them happy," said Abby.

Robert Scalzo, business manager for the cancer center, accepted the donation from the two Girl Scouts. The scouts have been learning about giving back to their community and helping others since they were a Daisy troop. When cookie season started this year, the troop decided to make a donation to the cancer center because some girls have known or lost someone who has had cancer.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, April 25: Chicken sampler with dipping sauce, French fries, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, April 26: Texas toast grilled ham and cheese, tomato soup, goldfish crackers, fresh and chilled fruit.

Wednesday, April 27: Chicken filet wrap with assorted sauce, lettuce, tomato and cheese, side of pasta salad, fresh and chilled fruit

Thursday, April 28: Fresh assorted calzones, garden salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled

Friday, April 29: Filet of fish sandwich, tartar sauce, spiral fries, coleslaw, fresh and chilled fruit.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, April 25: Chicken tenders with dipping sauce, whipped potatoes, seasoned green beans, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, April 26: French toast sticks, hash browns, baked ham slice, baked apples, orange

Wednesday. April 27: Texas toast grilled cheese. low-fat Cape Cod chips, carrots with low-fat ranch, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, April 28: Southwest cheeseburger (Junior High and Doering), tacos (elementary), baked beans, onion rings, fresh and chilled fruit,

Friday, April 29: French bread pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL **ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU**

Monday, April 25: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, cinnamon graham crackers, mozzarella cheese string, juice.

Tuesday, April 26: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted nutri-grain bars, mozzarella cheese string, juice.

Wednesday, April 27: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted muffins, mozzarella cheese string, juice.

Thursday, April 28: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Trix yogurt, mozzarella cheese string, juice.

Friday, April 29: Pillsbury mini pancakes with syrup for dipping, mozzarella cheese string, 1 percent

More youth news on page 19









The finale for the Phelps Elementary School's fourth annual talent show brought all 58 students who performed back on stage for a group song. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

TALENT ■ from page 8

Morello said any type of act - within reason - is allowed in the show. There's no judging and no awards.

"It's all for fun and a place for the kids to get up on stage and show their talents," she said.

Madeline Maharne and Lia Boulos are two six-year-old first graders who have knack for telling knock-knock jokes. Lia has told jokes since she was 2 while Madeline started telling jokes when she was 4.

"I like making people laugh," said Madeline. Her mother is her inspiration: "She told jokes when she was a little girl and I want to tell jokes just like her."

Madeline said her nine-year-old sister tells jokes, too, but added: "I have better talent."

Jake Parolo closed the show with an unusual act. Wearing a black "tuxedo" T-shirt, the fourth grader danced on stage while lip-synching to Adele singing her hit song, "Hello." His exaggerated expressions and movements brought the house down as the audience cheered and applauded.

The 10-year-old said after hearing the song on the radio one day, it just stuck with him. Soon he began memorizing the words.

"I'd wake up in the morning and just start singing the song," he said.

Jake, who likes singing, said his mother encouraged him to perform "Hello" for the talent show.

We thought it would be fun and funny," he added.

Dinner was once again donated and prepared by the family of a Phelps student that own the Copperline Eatery in Chicopee. Glenn Chamberland and his family have catered all four Phelps talent shows. Money raised from the \$10 tickets goes toward purchasing more technology for students, such as Chromebooks.

Morello said planning the event is a lot of extra work, but it's "so much fun and worth every minute it takes to organize it."

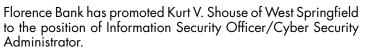


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Florence Bank President and Chief Executive Officer John F. Heaps, Jr., said, "We're pleased to promote Kurt to this expanded role with our bank. We take a very proactive stance where security and information security is concerned and Kurt is someone whose expertise will continue to be of great value to our Bank and our customers.





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Entries being accepted for 3D art show

The Friends of the Agawam Public Library will present a four-day exhibition of three-dimensional art objects in the second Open Juried 3D Art Object Show. The exhibition will include art objects from a broad range of artistic endeavors, including traditional and contemporary sculpture, jewelry, furniture, ceramics and other artisan and

This show brings together a broad mixture of art forms and media, which may include stone, bronze, wood, metals, fabrics, glass, recyclables or found objects, and which may present as a single medium or mixed media.

The exhibition may be viewed at the library, 750 Cooper St., Agawam, Wednesday and Thursday, June 8 and 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Friday, June 10, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, June 11, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Robert Markey and Peter Dellert will judge the entries and award best in show, first-, second- and third-place

prizes in each of five categories and 10 honorable mentions. Markey works in many media, including painting, sculpture, installation, video and mosaics. His public art projects appear in several major U.S. cities, and his mosaic murals are seen in Brazil, Chile, Cambodia, Mexico, Sri Lanka and the U.S. He uses his talents in mosaic murals to reach disadvantaged children in Brazil and Asia. Dellert is a furniture maker, sculptor and collage artist. His works have appeared in Sculpture Key West, Contemporary Sculpture at Chesterwood, Sculpture New Hope and Sculpture Now.

Entries for the 3D Art Object Show are being accepted through Tuesday, May 31, with early-bird registration available through Monday, May 16. Full entry details are available from Bob Kadis at r.kadis@comcast.net or 413-789-4814, or at www.agawamlibrary.org/about/friends.htm.

Learn about straw bale gardening at workshop

Ruth van Wijk will give a workshop on the skills needed to become straw bale gardeners at 7 p.m. Monday, May 2, at the Agawam Public Library. A gardener from Granby, Conn., Van Wijk has been cultivating gardens indoors and out for over 40 years. Straw bales are ultimate in container gardening. They create their own rich soil, generate warmth, and raise planting beds off the ground for easier access.

Autographed copies of the book "Straw Bale Gardens Complete" by Joel Karsten will be available for

This event is sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association. To register, call the library at 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or register online at www.agawamlibrary.org. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Register for free photography workshop at library this Saturday

hold its fourth annual photography workshop at the Agawam Public Library from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 23. This is a free conference and is open to the

This event is designed for photographers of all levels who want to learn more about photography or share what they know with others. The day will include several presentations by top photographers, but there will also be time to work in small groups, giving all a chance to explore the features of their cameras. There will be an emphasis throughout the day on how to do things, as well as an atmosphere encouraging everyone to ask any question that they have.

Topics will include travel photography, cameras and computers, street photography, post processing tips, and macro photography. Participants should bring their brary is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Springfield Photographic Society will own lunches to enjoy during an extended lunch break that will give everyone time to talk with one another.

> Participants should bring their cameras, lenses, flash and camera manuals. For the hands-on session on post processing, people are encouraged to bring some of their own images on a flash drive, and each person is welcome to bring his or her own laptop to learn more about how to use software they already have. There will be ample time during the day to ask questions and to share knowledge with others.

> The goal of the day is to have fun with photo colleagues. Springfield Photographic Society welcomes new members; conference participants can learn more about the organization at this event.

> Those planning to attend the event should email Kevin Fay at fay44@comcast.net. The li-

Leonard House to host silhouette artist

Silhouette artist Marcella Comerford returns to the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main St., Agawam, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, to practice her centuries-old art.

Silhouettes are way to document family members at any age and become treasured family heirlooms. They are ideal gifts for Mother's Day, birthdays, or just for the fun of it. Silhouettes are \$35 per profile and \$15 for a duplicate copy; frames and mattes will be available for sale that day. A portion of the proceeds of this event will aid in the preservation of the 200-year old Captain Leonard

Comerford uses just her trained artistic eye, delicate scissors and fine black paper to create her silhouettes. She does not use a shadow or tracing method, and the entire process only takes minutes. Comerford and her mother, Jean Comerford, are two of only about

15 silhouette artists in the United States,

England. Comerford silhouettes have also been featured in national publications.

Reservations are required and are being taken in 10-minute increments. For more information or to reserve a sitting, call 413-786-9421. Walk-ins will be accommodated as possible.

The Captain Charles Leonard House was built in 1805 as a stage tavern to service travelers on the Hartford-Boston route.

> It has served as Agawam's Community House since 1939, when Minerva Davis restored the property and created the non-profit organization that operates the house. The house was

placed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1975, and occupies a prominent location in the Aga-

wam Center National Register Historic District. The Captain Leonard House is considered to be Agawam's finest federal-era home and is available to rent for business functions and social events. For more in-

formation, call 413-786-9421 or visit www.

Scout council's annual banquet is next week

John Maybury, president of Maybury Material Handling and a resident of East Longmeadow, will receive the 2016 Distinguished Citizen Award at an April 26 gala, sponsored by the Western Massachusetts Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The banquet starts at 6 p.m. at Chez Josef in Agawam.

Al Kasper, who is president and CEO of Savage Arms and last year's honoree, will present the award to Maybury at the event. Serving as chairman and master of ceremonies is Brian Tuohey, president of Collins

Gen. L. Scott Rice, an Eagle Scout, will David Kruse at 413-594-9196, ext. 7002.

be the guest speaker. Rice oversees the strategic direction, administration and operation of the Massachusetts National Guard, with an annual budget of \$450 million. He has been nominated by President Barack Obama for his third star, the rank of lieutenant general. If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, he will assume the position of director of the Air National Guard.

Western Massachusetts Council, BSA, includes Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties. The council served 6,600 youth last year. This dinner is its largest fundraising event. For ticket information, contact



The Captain Charles Leonard

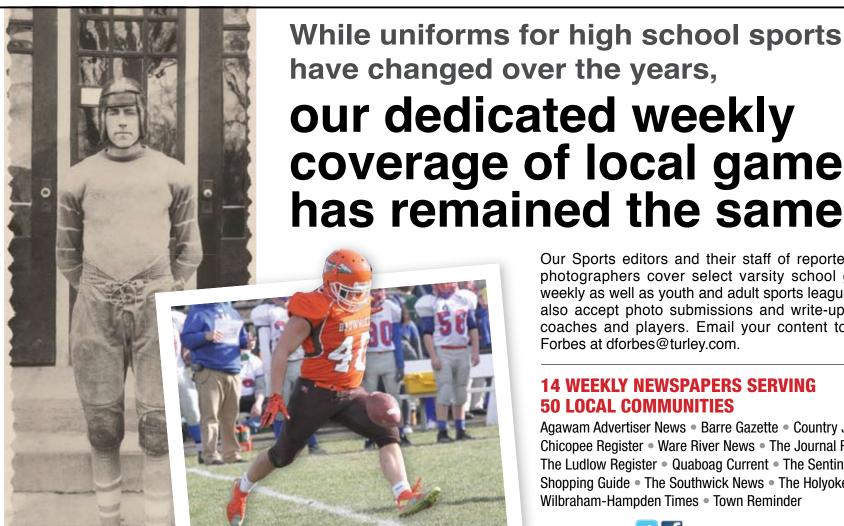
House will host silhouette Art-

ist Marcella Comerford on Sat-

urday, April 30, with proceeds

to benefit the Main Street

landmark. SUBMITTED PHOTO



coverage of local games has remained the same.

Our Sports editors and their staff of reporters and photographers cover select varsity school games weekly as well as youth and adult sports leagues. We also accept photo submissions and write-ups from coaches and players. Email your content to Dave Forbes at dforbes@turley.com.

14 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS SERVING **50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

Agawam Advertiser News • Barre Gazette • Country Journal Chicopee Register • Ware River News • The Journal Register The Ludlow Register • Quaboag Current • The Sentinel Shopping Guide • The Southwick News • The Holyoke Sun Wilbraham-Hampden Times • Town Reminder



Fish and Game tag sale delayed to May 7

The Rent-a-Space Tag Sale, scheduled for earlier this month, has been postponed. It will now be held Saturday, May 7, at the West Springfield Fish and Game Club, 329 Garden St., Feeding Hills. For more information, contact Liz at 860-798-1013, Randy at 413-846-3433, or the club at 413-786-5925.

See 'Big Papi' with Parks & Rec

The Agawam Parks and Recreation Department will host a bus trip Friday, Aug. 26, to Fenway Park to see the Boston Red Sox versus the Kansas City Royals in one of David "Big Papi" Ortiz' final games. Game time is 7:05 p.m.

The bus will leave the Agawam Senior Center at 954 Main St. at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$107 per person, which includes the bus, seats in the infield grandstand Section 21, and driver tip. Registration will begin Tuesday, May 2, at 8:30 a.m. at the Parks and Recreation Department, 1000 Suffield St., Agawam. Tickets will be available on a first-come basis.

For more information, call 413-821-0514.

Tables available for St. Martha's tag sale

St. Martha's Guild will hold its annual Tag, Bake and Plant Sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 7, at the Sacred Heart Church Parish Center, 1065 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Tables are available at a cost of \$20. For more information, contact Joanne at 413-786-7919 or jjcappa@aol. com, or Mary at 413-786-1042 or mscherpa@comcast.net. Forms are available at the Parish Center.







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SOFTBALL

Brownies offense downs Falcons in semifinal rematch

By Nate Rosenthal

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - Two of the most successful programs of the past decade have been those at Agawam High and Minnechaug Regional. So when they got together in an early season game, most were expecting a close battle between the two Valley League rivals. That was not the case as the Brownies took a quick lead in the top of the first and added from there to beat the Falcons, 10-2.

Katie Grasso led the game off with a triple and scored two batters later. By the end of the second, Agawam scored all of the runs they would need, taking a 3-1 lead. Minnechaug did not score their second run until the sixth and by that time the Brownies had taken a 10-1 lead. Allie Wheeler was superb, as she held the Falcons to just five hits on the afternoon.

For the two teams, the early season game, third for the Falcons and second for the Brownies was expected to be more like their games of the recent past. They split their series in 2015, with the Brownies winning the regular season finale, giving the Falcons just their second loss in an 18-2 season. For their part, Agawam was 15-5. They would play again in the Western Mass D1 semifinals, where the Brownies won that game, 8-0. They follwed that with a Western Mass Championship. It was Agawam's third such tile in four years. In fact, over the years, one or both of the teams were seeded in the top four in each year dating back to 2007, usually, they were one slot apart. Evenly matched does not begin to describe the two teams.

Grasso opened with that three bagger and Wheeler followed with a walk by Nina Langone. Wheeler stole second and when

SOFTBALL I page 14



Jenna Beach makes a catch in left.



Maria Moccio throws across to first for the out. Turley publications photos by david Henry Sweetdog-Photos Com

VOLLEYBALL

Brownies come from behind to beat Falcons

By Nate Rosenthal

Turley Publication Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - With their volleyball match having completed three sets, all having ended with the same 25-22 scores, Minnechaug had powerful Agawam on the ropes with a two games to one lead. In the fourth set, the Brownies came alive and won it handily, 25-17, setting up the tie breaker, which they won by a score of 15-5. The win kept Agawam in the unbeaten ranks as they prepare to play Westfield, the team with which they share the top of the

Northern Division. This had the makings of an upset from the beginning. Even though the Brownies won the first set by that 25-22 score, it was close the entire game. Minnechaug made several runs and almost caught Agawam on several occasions. The Falcons, save for a brief 1-1 tie, led the entire way in the second game. They maintained leads of three to five throughout. For most of the third game, Agawam had the lead, but never more than four points and that came early. The Falcons scored the final six points, taking a 22-19 deficit to a 25-22 victory. Agawam go into a rhythm midway through the fourth set and then began expanding on it to a final of 25-17. The Brownies carried the momentum of the fourth game win into the tie breaker. When the teams switched



Caleb Hodovanec tries to keep the ball in the air. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY SWEET-DOGPHOTOS.COM

BASEBALL

Agawam loses in extra innings

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – Thanks to a scheduling change, the Agawam baseball team found themselves playing Holyoke twice in a row.

After suffering an 8-2 loss to the Knights, Agawam was able to rebound and gave them a much better game on the road, but a Jose Lopez single in the eighth inning gave Holyoke a 3-2 extra inning victory. The defeat also left Agawam winless on the season.

Agawam received a phenomenal effort by Kevin Lecuyer, who was making his second start of the season.

Lecuyer would go deep into the game, finishing with 7 2-3 innings pitched.

He allowed two runs in the fifth inning, but Agawam came back and tied the score with two runs in the top of the seventh inning, forcing extra innings.

Eric Robert, the Holyoke catcher, led off the bottom of the eighth inning with a base hit. Nathaniel Rivera was set to make a sacrifice bunt, but laid it down perfectly and ended up with a single to put runners on first and second with no outs.

John Moskal would walk to load the bases, but Agawam coach Brian Rheault stuck with Lecuyer. He would induce the next two hitters to fly out to get two outs in the inning. But Lopez socked a single to left



Joe Oliver makes a throw over to first. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Sports



Catcher Austin Sabadosa throws down to second.

BASEBALL I

that would score the winning run for Holyoke.

Carlos Lopez and Nick Delude both reached base in the fifth inning and later came around to score to give the Knights a 2-0 lead after five innings.

In the top of the seventh, Matt O'Keefe and Joe Oliver both reached base on a hit and a walk, respectively. Steve Grasso would eventually get the base hit that would drive in both runs to tie the score 2-2.

Lecuyer had a great start, allowing three runs on six hits. He would walk five and struck out three.

Holvoke got a good start from Eliezer Vazquez. He went the first 6 2-3 innings, allowing two runs on two hits. He walked three and struck out four. Jeffrey Hodge entered



Pitcher Kevin Lecuyer pitches in the fourth inning for Agawam. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

from page 12

the game in the top of the seventh inning and got the final out. He then pitched a scoreless eighth inning and earned the win when his team scored for him in the bottom of the

With the defeat and a loss 4-3 against Chicopee Comp last Saturday, Agawam drops to 0-4 for the regular season. Of their four losses, three have been by just one run.

Agawam faces Westfield on April 21 at 1 p.m. and meets Chicopee at 12 p.m. at Szot Park in Chicopee.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports editor for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com or by calling 413-283-8393 ext. 258.

The Week Ahead

Thursday, April 21 Baseball

Softball **Boys Tennis Girls Track Boys Volleyball**

Agawam at Westfield 4 p.m. Agawam at Hampshire 4 p.m. Agawam at Chicopee 4 p.m. Agawam at Southwick 4 p.m. Dean Tech at Agawam 1 p.m.

Friday, April 22 Baseball

Agawam at Chicopee 12 p.m.

Saturday, April 23

Boys Lacrosse Agawam vs. Peabody (at UMass-Amherst) 8:30 a.m. Westfield vs. Agawam (at Westfield State) 8 a.m. **Boys Track**

Sunday, April 24

No games scheduled.

Monday, April 25

Girls Lacrosse Softball **Boys Tennis**

Longmeadow at Agawam 4 p.m. Holyoke at Agawam 4:15 p.m. Agawam at Belchertown 4 p.m.

Tuesday, April 26

Baseball **Boys Lacrosse Girls Tennis Boys Track Boys Volleyball**

Agawam at Minnechaug 4 p.m. Minnechaug at Agawam 4 p.m. Agawam at Westfield 4 p.m. Agawam at Central 4 p.m. Holyoke at Agawam 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 27

Softball South Hadley at Agawam 4 p.m. **Boys Tennis** Agawam at Longmeadow 4 p.m. **Boys Volleyball** Agawam at East Longmeadow 5 p.m.

Please recycle this newspaper

sides, Agawam had an 8-4 advantage. Then they scored seven of the next nine points to gain the victory.

In this match, by pushing the Brownies to the limit, the Falcons have been the only team to win as much as a set in any of Agawam's five matches to date.

Minnechaug scored the first three points in the opening set, but then Agawam returned the favor by winning the next five. The scoring went back and forth throughout that first set, with the Brownies maintaining a two and three-point lead for much of the set. Agawam got it to five at 20-15, but back came Minnechaug to close to two points. On a Mike Basile kill, the Brownies got it to game point at 24-19, but three points by the Falcons cut it back to two. Basile got the game winner with a kill and Agawam had a 1-0 lead.

Matt Garbecki served an ace for the Falcons to begin the second and soon after, Nikolas Bates had back to back aces to give the Falcons a 6-2 lead. The Brownies got back to two at 7-5 on a tip by Mark Vilkhovoy, but Minnechaug on a run of Garbecki serves opened to 13-7. It was still six points at 19-13. On a serving run by Caleb Hodovanec, the Brownies brought it back to 19-18 and they would eventually tie it at 22-22 on an ace by Garrett Hollander. But this game would go to the Falcons as they scored the next three points-- a kill by Gavin Berkeley, a block by Jon Wegrzynek and a hit out of bounds by the Brownies.

Minnechaug would score the final six points in the third set, the game winner coming on a Wegrzynek kill. It was the third straight 25-22 set and it gave Minnechaug a 2-1



Alan Burlachenko fires a spike for the Brownies.

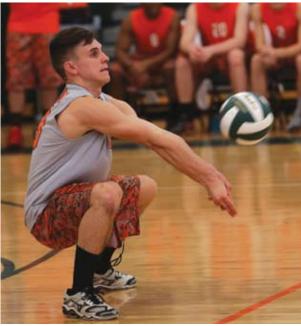
VOLLEYBALL ■ from page 12

The Brownies won the fourth set 25-17 and with the matched knotted at 2-2, the tie breaker was next.

Minnechaug scored first on and Bates kill. Agawam tied it on a kill by Hodovachenko. They took a 3-2 on a Vilkhovoy ace and turned that into an 8-4 lead on a Burlechenko block. After the teams switched sides, the Brownies kept pulling away. After a Basile kill, it was 11-5. Burlechenko was responsible for two of the Brownies last three points, a tip for a13-6 lead and a block for the 15-6 win.

There were some outstanding numbers on both teams, none more impressive than the 44 assists by Hollander. He also had five aces. Basile led everyone with 18 kills, with Hodovanec next at 14. Vilkhovoy and Hodovanec had 17 and 16 digs each. On the Minnechaug score sheet, Garbecki led with a strong 34 assists. He also had 15 digs. Wegrzynek had 14 digs, while leading in kills were Berkeley, 14 and Bates, 12.

The Brownies started the week with a 3-0 win over West Springfield and finished with their fourth in five matches over Chicopee Comp. They go up against Westfield in a battle of unbeatens in the next match. The Falcons lost to Westfield, 3-0 and then returned to winning after the Agawam with a 3-0 victory over Ludlow.



Mark Vilkhovoy goes low to make a bump. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHO-TOS BY DAVID HENRY SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



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Sports

SOFTBALL ■ from page 12

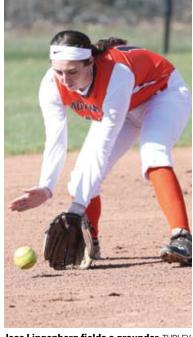
Rachel Laponese grounded out, Grasso scored and Wheeler went to third. A single by Maria Moccio plated Wheeler. An error with two outs loaded the bases, but Langone was able to escape. The score was 2-0.

It would not remain that way for long, as Katelyn Thompson led off the bottom of the first with a triple. Two batters later, Rachel Crafts brought her home with a single to make it 2-1.

The Brownies got that run back in the second without benefit of a hit. Wheeler waked for the second time and Laponese was hit by a pitch. Two wild pitches moved them up a base on each and on the latter, Wheeler scored to give the Brownies a 3-1 lead. That would all Wheeler would need.

Over the next three innings, the Brownies would score, two, two and three on seven hits, while Minnechaug was scoreless from the second through the fourth and had but one hit during that time. Back to back doubles by Gianna Perella and Sierra Kruser gave the Brownies one run in the third. Kruser came home on an error. In the fourth, Moccio who had reached on an error came home on a single by Perella. Jess Lingenberg, who had singled scored on a fielder's choice by Kruser. That made it 7-1. The Brownies scored three more in the fifth. Lexie Kupiec, who had walked, scored on a wild pitch; Grasso singled and Wheeler doubled for the second run; a sacrifice fly by Moccio brought home Wheeler with her third run of the

As for Minnechaug, Tricia Murphy reached on an error in the second, but she was wiped out on a double play. Grace Brennan had a pinch hit single to lead off the fifth and got to second, when Langone reached an error. The Falcons made it 10-2 in the sixth, as Taylor Sanborn led off with a single and then scored on a Callie Murray double. Kupiec set down the next five batters, including three in the seventh, all on groundouts.

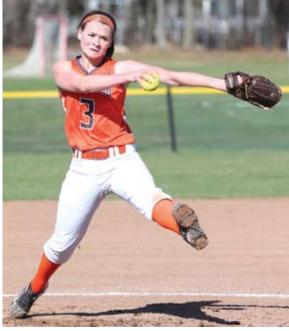


Jess Lingenberg fields a grounder. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY SWEET-DOGPHOTOS.COM

Grasso, Moccio and Perella each had two hits. Wheeler scored three times. No one on the Falcons got more than one in the game off of Wheeler

Earlier in the week, the Brownies beat Westfield, 6-0, as Wheeler allowed just three hits and struck out 12 hitters. The game was scoreless through three, but then the Brownies picked up runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth. Grasso, Kruser and Moccio had two hits each. Agawam is 2-0 on the season and has the early lead in the Valley League. Their next game is against Pittsfield.

The Falcons began the week with a 6-0 win over Central. Crafts went six inning of shutout ball and Thompson finished off. Crafts and Emma Hicklen both had a pair of hits. The Falcons got back to winning a 3-2 victory over Westside. In the top of the seventh, Crafts singled home Sanborn to give the Falcons the lead. Thompson, who went the distance, finsished off the Terriers. She also had three hits. Minnechaug is 3-1 and play their next game against Hampshire.



Pitcher Allison Wheeler fires away.



Second baseman Samantha Stratton fields a grounder.

ROUND UP

Agawam boys lacrosse outlasts East Longmeadow By Gregory A. Scibelli

gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam boys lacrosse team has improved to 4-3 with a 13-12 win over East Longmeadow on Patriots Day Monday at East Longmeadow High School. It was the second one-goal game Agawam has had during the past week.

The Brownies also defeated Pope Francis 11-10 last Friday afternoon after two overtime periods. It was T.J. Maniscalchi who scored the eventual winning goal in the second overtime. Both Matt Lemke and Rob Mirolli notched hat tricks in the victory for Agawam and Tytus Moen had two goals in the match.

Agawam has won three of their last four games and are next in action against Peabody in a special matchup being held at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst at 8:30 a.m. on April 23.

Girls Lacrosse

Longmeadow is a tough matchup for any team in the region, but Agawam gave a good effort in an 18-5 defeat.

The Brownies were in the match early, but Longmeadow continued to pound in the goals thanks to good passing an ability to keep possession of the ball. Longmeadow also dominated face-offs.

Julia Serra had two goals, and Jill Scherpa, Christie Mirski, and Izzy Liquori had the other goals for the visiting team.

The Brownies also had a 20-6 defeat over West Springfield High School last Tuesday afternoon, beating the Terriers at Clark Field. Eliza Timms had a big game with five goals and one assist.

Katie Martin also had a huge day with four goals and five assist to lead all scorers with nine points. Serra had four goals and Liquori had three goals.

The Brownies are currently 2-1 this season and will face Longmeadow at home at School Street Park on April 25 at 4 p.m.

Boys Tennis

Agawam is out to a 3-0 record with wins over Sci-Tech, South Hadley, and Northampton last week. Northampton was the first team to have individuals score wins against Agawam's players. Agawam still won 3-2.

For Agawam, Matteo Godek and Mike Destefano had the singles victories while the second doubles team also scored a win. Godek needed three sets and defeated Leon Moore 6-4 to finish off his victory.

Girls Tennis

The Brownies have started the season 1-5. They have lost two straight, including a 3-2 loss against South Hadley on Monday afternoon. Getting the victories for Agawam were Alia Godek in the second singles spot with a 6-2, 6-3 straight set win. The second doubles team also had a win for the Brownies.

SUNDAY May 22nd

Agawam Little League Golf Tournament

Let's Play Ball, and Swing Away!
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St. Anne's Country Club – Agawam, MA 8AM Shotgun Start Scramble – 7AM Check-In \$89.00pp includes:

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To register or sponsor contact Scott Couture 413-221-5580 jdsc081597@comcast.net or Mike Natale 413-478-4272 michael natale0000@yahoo.com

Legals

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

AGAWAM

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Community Preservation Committee (CPC) will hold its annual public hearing at the Agawam Library Community Room, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 7:00PM. The Committee will provide an overview of the financial performance of the CPA fund as well share recent accomplishments. The CPC will also welcomes input on goals, activities, procedures and spending The CPC is encouraging residents, town boards, committees and commissions to attend and discuss the needs and possibilities of projects that may qualify for Community Preservation Act funds. Please be advised that the CPA Committee is required by M.G.L. Ch. 44B to consult with existing municipal boards to study the needs the needs, possibilities and resources of the city regarding community preservation.

4/14,4/21/16

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT April 15, 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Public Library Community Room, 750 Cooper St., Agawam, MA on Monday, May 9, 2016 at 7PM for all parties interested in the appeal of Aurelio Daniele, who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7 to allow for the construction of an addition to a legal nonconforming structure with less than the required front setback at the premises identified as 500 Meadow Street.

Doreen Prouty Chairperson Agawam Board of Appeals 4/21,4/28/16

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT April 15, 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Public Library Community Room, 750 Cooper St., Agawam, MA on Monday, May 9, 2016 at 6:30PM for all parties interested in the appeal of Yankee Mattress Factory, which is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7 (B) to allow for the construction of an accessory storage building at the premises identified as

314 Springfield Street.

Doreen Prouty
Chairperson
Agawam Board of Appeals

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

4/21,4/28/16

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of JK Real Estate LLC for property located at 221-227 & 245 Springfield Street.

By Order of **Henry A. Kozloski**, Chairman
Agawam Conservation
Commission

4/21/16

Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@ turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, April 22

AGAWAM SENIOR CENTER, 954 Main St., will host a viewing of "Trial and Error" by Steve Henderson from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. The audience will view the most ridiculous, most hilarious miscarriage of the justice system ever. Free and open to the public. Gratuities welcome.

NEW ENGLAND SPRING CLASSIC DOG SHOWS today through Sunday in Mallary East and Mallary West on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Free admission.

Saturday, April 23

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF AGAWAM, 760 Main St., on the corner of Main Street and Elm Street indoor tag sale from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Antiques, new items, multiple tables, bake table and snack bar. For more information. call the church office 413-786-7300.

HOLISTIC VENDOR FAIR at the Feeding Hills Wellness Center, 567 Springfield St., Feeding Hills today and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free to the public. For more information, contact the Feeding Hills Wellness Center at 413-244-4660 or visit fh-wellness.com.

SPRINGFIELD PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY annual photography workshop at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This free conference is open to the public. Those planning to attend the event should email Kevin Fay at fay44@comcast. net. Participants should bring their cameras, lenses, flash and camera manuals.

Sunday, April 24

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL AND FIREHOUSE MUSE-UM at 35 Elm St., Agawam, will open for the season from 1 to 4 p.m. and will feature a special exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Eastern States Exhibition. For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com or follow it on Facebook.

FLUTIST TIMOTHY MACRI will open the spring and summer concert series at Second Baptist Church, 100 N. Main St., Suffield with a performance at 3 p.m.

JUDITH BLACK, nationally known award-winning actress/storyteller, will portray Civil War abolitionist and suffragette Lucy Stone for one performance only at Springfield Armory NHS theatre at the corner of State and Federal streets (STCC campus), at 2 p.m. The program is free. For more information, call 413-734-8551 or visit www.nps.gov/spar.

Wednesday, April 27

SPRING BOOK SALE sponsored by the Friends of the Southwick Public Library, 5-7 p.m. member preview today at the library, 95 Feeding Hills Road (new members may join at the door for \$5; \$10 families); regular sale days 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. For more information, email inthejog2@yahoo.com or call 413-569-1221.

Thursday, April 28

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE

will present "All About Emus and Why Would a Museum Hath Their Eggs," featuring Elizabeth Thwing, nonfiction writer for children, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts, at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Friday, April 29

WESTFIELD HOMELESS CAT PROJECT TAG SALE today, tomorrow and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 56 Washington St., Westfield. Rain or shine. For more information, email denisesinico@hot-

Saturday, April 30

LADIES TEA IN THE GARDEN at 1 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. Tea, sandwiches, desserts served by white-gloved waiters. Tickets \$12. \$5 for girls under 12, available mornings in the church office or by calling 413-786-7111.

CITIZENS RESTORING CONGAMOND will hold a plant sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Suffield Green at Mountain Road and N. Main Street, rain or shine. All profits support CRC's efforts to maintain Congamond Lakes' water quality and fight invasive weeds.

Sunday, May 1

PANCAKES FOR AUTISM at Moolicious Farm, 258 Feeding Hills Road, Southwick, 8 a.m. to noon. \$8 for adults; \$6 for children includes Joe's famous pancakes with bacon or sausage and a beverage. Proceeds to benefit the Western New England Walk Now For Autism

Thursday, May 5

SKYLARKZ FREE FIRST THURSDAYS CONCERT at the Westfield Athenaeum at noon in the Lang Auditorium of the Athenaeum, 6 Elm St., Westfield. Performances of swing, blues, and ballads by legendary composers such as Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, and Cole Porter.

Friday, May 6

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL APPLAUSE SE-RIES will feature concert pianist Deborrah Wyndham who will present "The History of Ragtime" at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. It is free and open to the public.

Saturday, May 7

Congamond Lakes Environmental Protection Organization second annual Winter's Over Party fundraiser at 8 p.m. Live music from Josh Larsen and Dynamic Funk at Crabby Joe's, 141 Congamond Road, Southwick. Prizes and raffles. A \$10 donation will be taken at the door.

ST. MARTHA'S GUILD TAG, BAKE AND PLANT SALE 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Church Parish Center, 1065 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. For more information, contact Joanne at 413-786-7919 or jjcappa@aol.com, or Mary at 413-786-1042 or mscherpa@comcast.net Forms are available at the Parish Center.

Sunday, May 8

TOUR THE PHELPS-HATHEWAY HOUSE & GARDEN, 55 South Main St., Suffield from 2 to 4 p.m. followed by a traditional tea service served by Mrs. Phelps. Young guests welcome to don a period costume. Admission is \$15 per person, \$40 for a group of three, \$12.50 for CTL members, \$10 for children 12 and under. Registration required. To register, call 860-668-0055 or email phelps.hatheway@ctlandmarks.org.

Wednesday, May 11

BOOK SIGNING BY TINKY WEISBLAT, author of "Pulling Taffy: A Year with Dementia & Other Adventures," at 5 p.m. at Heritage Woods Senior Living, 462 Main St.,

to flag graves

Volunteers sought

The Agawam Veterans Council is seeking volunteers to flag veterans' graves Saturday, April 23. Anyone interested in participating can meet at the Springfield Street Cemetery in Feeding Hills.

The Veterans Office will conduct the Memorial Day Parade and ceremony at 10 a.m. Monday, May 30 at the Veterans Green, 689 Main St., Agawam.

Agawam. For more information or to register, call 413-789-8332 or email nicole.wallace@genesishcc.com.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is

Thursday, May 12

WEST OF THE RIVER CHAMBER's "Let's Put West Springfield and Agawam on the Map," a free workshop in conjunction with SCORE, about getting found on Google search and maps, at the West Springfield Public Library, 200 Park St., from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information or to register, visit www.westoftheriverchamber.com or call 413-426-3880.

Saturday, May 14

WESTFIELD GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE at 28 Court St. from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Perennials, annuals and indoor plants featured at reasonable prices, along with "garden art," flower baskets, ornaments and accessories. A raffle of gift baskets will be included in the day's activities.

Sunday, May 15

A JOURNEY OF HOPE AND RECOVERY NAMI walkathon from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Beveridge Pavilion Annex at Stanley Park in Westfield. Complimentary food and beverages, music and a raffle for all ages. For more information, visit www.namiwm.org or call the office at 413-786-9139.

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. A special coin topic will be presented and discussed. Refreshments available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS will host a Remembrance Garden Dedication Ceremony at 11 a.m. in Forest Park on Sumner Avenue in Springfield to mark the opening of the garden, the first of its kind in the United States. A reception will take place following the ceremony at the John Boyle O'Reilly Club in Springfield.

Friday, May 20

FRIENDS OF THE AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK SALE from 2-5 p.m., \$3 for the public, free for Friends members; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at no charge for all. All proceeds to benefit library programs.

Wednesday, May 25

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS of Western Mass. panel discussion on Mental Health and Elders from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Baystate Conference Center, 361 Whitney Ave., Holyoke. Keynote Speaker Dr. Benjamin Liptzin, former chair of psychiatry, Baystate Health. For more information, contact Jennifer Higgings, NAMI-WM vice president, at jhiggins@ namiwm.org or 413-439-2261.

Thursday, May 26

2016 WORLD'S KIELBASA FESTIVAL AND INTERNA-TIONAL FAIR today from 4-10 p.m.; tomorrow from 4-11 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; and Monday from noon to 9 p.m. at the Young & Stroh Building, Coliseum and outdoor area on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. General admission, \$10; five-day pass, \$35; children 12 and under free with p aid adult; seniors, \$3; students, \$5 with identification.

Thursday, June 8

FRIENDS OF THE AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY 3D Art Show today from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ONGOING

THE UPSTAIRS GALLERY AND GLASS CASES at the Agawam Public Library contain 68 photos that were juried into the Friends of the Agawam Public Library Sixth Open Juried Photography Show. The show will run to Feb. 26. Brochures are available in the gallery area at the library that describe the photographs.

GRANDPARENT'S PLAYGROUP Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. This free infant and toddler playgroup features music and movement, fostering children's interactions and sharing skills. Open to all grandparents and their grandchildren. Follows school schedule.

MOM 2 MOM takes place the second Tuesday of every month October through June, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. A roundtable discussion hosted by a local "veteran" mom, this is a great way to have further conversation on recent café themes and parent education events, celebrate parenting and receive encouragement for the trials.

THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK COMMITTEE meets the third Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Rectory conference room, 833 Main St., Agawam. For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247 or email Rosemary Sandlin at rosemarysandlin@gmail.

Agawam Senior Center –

Lunch Menu

Monday, April 25: Chicken stir-fry, stir-fry vegetables, brown rice, pears.

Tuesday, April 26: Ham dinner, pineapple sauce, roasted sweet potatoes, peas, mixed fruit.

Wednesday, April 27: Country pie, spring salad, peaches

Thursday, April 28: Macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, corn muffin, pudding. Friday, April 29: Baked fish nuggets, Tater Tots,

mixed vegetables, baked good.

Calendar of Events

Monday, April 25: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., bingo; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, April 26: 9 a.m., exercise, knitting class, sewing class; 10 a.m., chair exercise; 12:30 p.m., mah jongg, movie ("Bridget Jones Diary"), ladies billiards; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 6 p.m., beginner line dance, evening sewing, art class with Barbara Cohen, evening pitch.

Wednesday, April 27: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., Scrabble; 1:30 p.m., Golden Age Chapter 1 meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 6:30 p.m., Turnverein chorus.

Thursday, April 28: 9 a.m., exercise, 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., 1 n m nitch frag blood praecure o open art; 1:30 p.m., Melody Band practice; 4:15 p.m., Pilates; 6:30 p.m., evening pitch, cancer support group.

Friday, April 29: 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., all media art class; 10 a.m., tai chi; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage; 4 p.m., poker.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Division 50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-8600 Docket No. HD16P0622EA **Estate of:** Selma S. Paroshinsky Date of Death: **September 25, 2015** INFORMAL PROBATE **PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Rachel L. Miller of Vernon CT, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Rachel L. Miller of Vernon CT has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A

copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 4/21/16

LEGAL AD **AGAWAM** CONSERVATION **COMMISSION**

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 6:15 PM, at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the Request to Amend an Order of Conditions for work to be performed on 33 Westford Circle.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman Agawam Conservation Commission

4/21/16

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the Agawam Advertiser News should be sent directly to klanier@ turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x235.

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Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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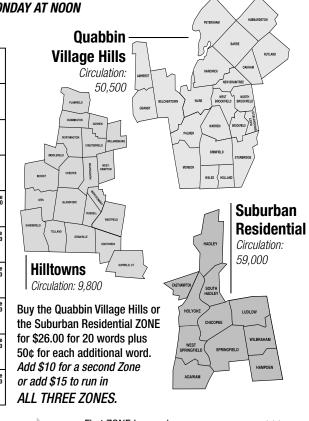
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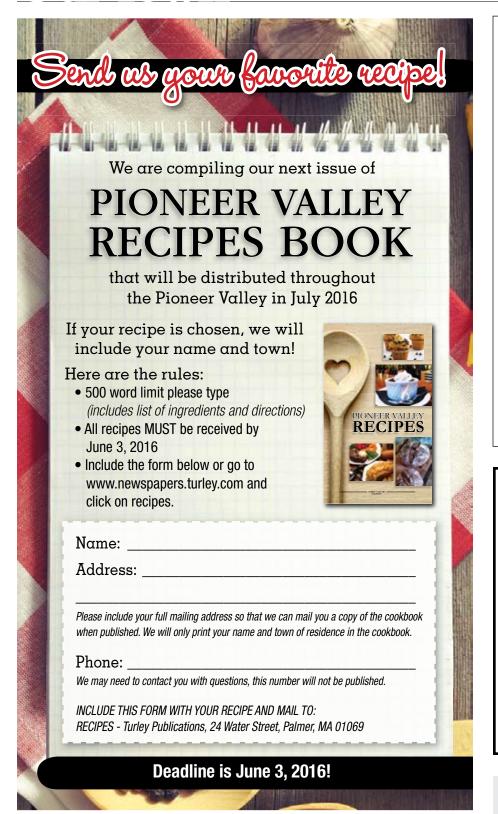


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<u>Our Town</u>



Opening night



The Red Door Theatre held an invitation-only premiere of Lyle Pearsons' original play, "Teacher: The Annie Sullivan Story," on April 14. The play, about the Feeding Hills native who taught Helen Keller, marked the Red Door's 25th anniversary and the 150th anniversary of Sullivan's birth. Pictured, from left, are Mayor Richard Cohen, Pearsons, actresses Jaime Pearsons, Margie Secora and Sophie Collins, City Councilor George Bitzas, town historian David Cecchi, Katherine Lancour, Annie Sullivan's third cousin, and Marilene Allen, co-owner of the Red Door Theatre with Pearsons. Two additional performances of the play were staged last Friday and Saturday.

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Youth

Rosie qualifies to compete in world championships in St. Louis

Agawam High School's FIRST Robotics team, 839 Rosie Robotics, competed in the New England FIRST District Championship this past weekend. The team earned its way to the world championships to be held April 27-30 at the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis, Missouri. Over 800 FIRST teams from all over the world will compete. Rosie competed in the New England Championships at the XL Center in Hartford in the team's last chance to qualify and placed 54th out.

of 63 teams with a 3-9 record. Five of those losses were by seven points or less.

Rosie earned 24 points, increasing its overall point total in the New England District to 122 points earned throughout the season, placing 38th out of 181 teams. The top 34 teams, based on points, receive an automatic bid, but with declines from teams that receive a bid due to their particular circumstances, Rosie is in. Those that would like to help Rosie in its quest can

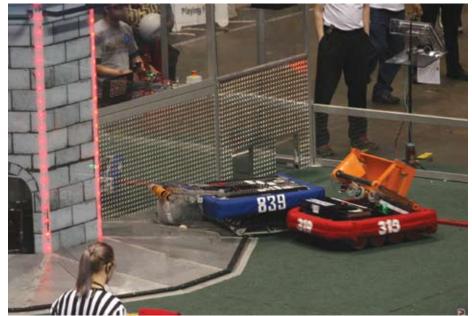
contact the team at www.agawamrobotics. org or on Facebook Rosie Robotics Page.

The team and all its supporters would like to thank the community and all of the sponsors for their support throughout competition and build season. The team is sponsored by Agawam High School, United Technologies, G&L Tool, MPI, PTC and the Agawam Lions Club.

Over 3,100 teams from across the globe nd six weeks to design and build a robot to compete in this year's medieval-themed design challenge. In FIRST Stronghold, two alliances of three robots each are on a quest to breach their opponents' fortifications, weaken their tower with boulders, and capture the opposing tower. Robots score points by breaching opponents' defenses and scoring boulders through goals in the opposing tower. During the final 20 seconds of the quest, robots may surround and scale the opposing tower to capture it.



Agawam High School team members take part in a strategy meeting in Rosie's pit at the New England FIRST District Championship. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Rosie scores a low goal under defensive pressure from BOB of FRC 319 from Alton, N.H., at the FIRST District Championship in Hartford.

Lioness to host Mohegan Sun trip

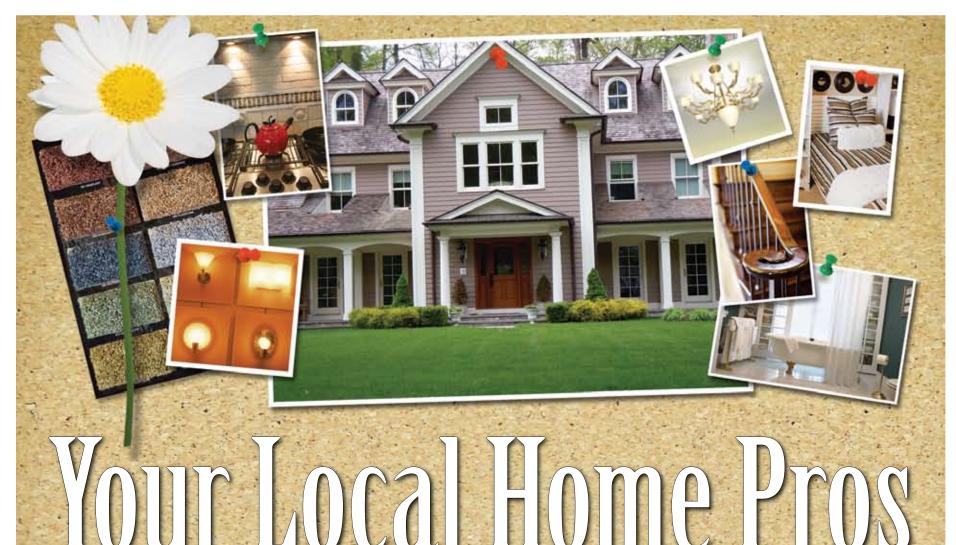
The Agawam Lioness Club will host a trip to Mohegan Sun Sunday, May 22. Anyone interested in going is asked to be at the Agawam High School parking lot at noon. The bus will depart when everyone has boarded.

The cost is \$33 per person, which includes bus driver's tip, a \$15 food voucher and a \$15 free bet voucher. Proceeds from this trip will be used for the various charities the Agawam Lioness Club supports. The public is invited. Early reservations are encouraged, as seats are limited. For reservations, call Pat at 413-786-1782 or Rose at 413-786-5134.

Reserve seats for 'Macbeth' Tuesday morning

Shakespeare & Co. of Lenox, Mass., will perform "Macbeth" at Agawam High School next Tuesday morning, April 26. Auditorium seats will be set aside for the general public to attend, and admission is free, though reservations are required. Doors open at 8:45 a.m.; the performance begins at 9:20 a.m. Parking is available at the school.

This condensed version of Macbeth runs approximately 90 minutes. The Agawam Cultural Council is sponsoring this event as part of its "Give Back to the Community Program." For reservations, contact Tina Dunham at 413-783-0502 or email tinamarie154@yahoo.com. The school is at 760 Cooper St., Agawam.



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